

## NEW YORK HERALD

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT,  
PROPRIETOR.

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VOLUME XL.....NO. 8

## AMUSEMENTS TO-NIGHT.

**ROMAN HIPPODROME.**—Twenty-sixth street and Broadway. —**BLUE BEARD** and **THE AT PEKIN**, afternoon and evening, at 8 and 10.

**FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE.**—Twenty-ninth street and Broadway. —**THE PALACE OF TRUTH**, at 8 P. M.; at 10:30 P. M. Miss Carolina Leclercq, Mr. Louis James.

**BRYANT'S OPERA HOUSE.**—West Twenty-third street near Fifth Avenue. —**NEGRO MINSTRELS**, at 8 P. M.; at 10:30 P. M. Dan Bryant.

**NIBLO'S.**—Broadway and JACK AND JILL, at 8 P. M.; at 10:30 P. M.

**BROOKLYN THEATRE.**—Washington street—**MERCHANT OF VENICE**, at 8 P. M. Mr. E. L. Davenport.

**SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS.**—Broadway, corner of Twenty-ninth street. —**NEGRO MINSTRELS**, at 8 P. M.; at 10:30 P. M.

**ROBINSON HALL.**—Sixteenth street and Broadway. —**THE CARL**, at 8 P. M.; at 10:30 P. M. Mr. Macabre.

**GERMANIA THEATRE.**—Fourth street—**ROSENKUELLER UND FRINK**, at 8 P. M. Mr. Pansa.

**GLOBE THEATRE.**—Broadway. —**VARIETY**, at 8 P. M.; at 10:30 P. M.

**LYCEUM THEATRE.**—Fourth street and Sixth Avenue. —**THE AXE AND THE CHAIN**, at 8 P. M.; at 10:30 P. M. Mr. Bonny.

**WALLACK'S THEATRE.**—Broadway. —**THE FILLIE DE MADAME ANTOINETTE**, at 8 P. M.; at 10:30 P. M. Mr. Boucault.

**ACADEMY OF MUSIC.**—Corner Irving place and Fourteenth street. —**PHILHARMONIC REHEARSAL**, at 8 P. M.

**WOOD'S THEATRE.**—Broadway, corner Third street. —**THE FACTORY GIRL**, at 8 P. M.; at 10:30 P. M. Mr. W. T. Melville.

**METROPOLITAN THEATRE.**—No. 333 Broadway. —**VARIETY**, at 8 P. M.; at 10:30 P. M.

**PARK THEATRE.**—Broadway. —**VARIETY**, at 8 P. M.; at 10:30 P. M.

**NEW YORK STADT THEATRE.**—Broadway. —**LA FILLE DE MADAME ANTOINETTE**, at 8 P. M.; at 10:30 P. M. Miss Lina May.

**RODIN'S THEATRE.**—Broadway. —**THE FILLIE DE MADAME ANTOINETTE**, at 8 P. M.; at 10:30 P. M. Mr. Bowe.

WITH SUPPLEMENT.

NEW YORK, FRIDAY, JANUARY 8, 1875.

From our reports this morning the probabilities are that the weather to-day will be clear.

**WALL STREET YESTERDAY.**—Stocks were a trifle stronger, but the market was without feature. Gold closed at 112½, without important changes. Foreign exchange was firm. Money on call loans was easy at from 2½ to 4 per cent.

**GOVERNOR WOODSON**, of Missouri, has joined hands with the other States in protesting against Presidential usurpation. It is plain that General Grant has made a mistake.

**GOVERNORS Allen, Gaston and Brown** have already spoken of the usurpation of the President with the indignation it calls for, and Governor Tilden, when the Legislature reassembles, will respond with equal earnestness.

**THERE CAN BE NO DOUBT** of the way in which Governor Tilden will speak of the military usurpation in Louisiana. He will not permit New York to be silent when Ohio, Massachusetts and Tennessee have so fearlessly spoken.

**"ALL OF US."**—What does "us" mean? Secretary Belknap informs General Sheridan that "all of us" approve of his action in New Orleans. Is Secretary Fish one of "us"? Perhaps he may reply to Secretary Belknap as Richelieu did to Barnabas:—"What place in the court grammar, man, made you a plural?"

**TAMMANY HALL** has done well to enter its protest against the outrage in Louisiana, and has emphasized that protest by quoting Governor McEnery's words, "that such action is subversive of the republican institutions of this free country." Tammany Hall in this indignant utterance speaks for all New York, without respect to party.

**NOW AND THEN.**—"If any man hauls down the American flag," said General Dix, in 1861, "shoot him on the spot." The American people approved of his advice. But now, when not the flag but the citizenship it represents is degraded, General Dix is silent. His eloquent words in 1875 are, "I have nothing at all to say on the question."

**THE FOREIGNERS** resident in New Orleans and doing business there have held a meeting and protested against the language used by General Sheridan in his despatches as an injury and a degradation, and this they do without venturing to offer any opinion upon the political merits of the situation.

**GOVERNOR BROWN**, in his Message, congratulates the Legislature of Tennessee that it is permitted to assemble peacefully, and that no military forces are assembled to disperse it. But he warns it that this immunity may not continue, and, like Governor Allen, calls upon it to protest against the usurpation at Washington for the sake of constitutional liberty.

## The Call for a Public Meeting.

The call which we publish this morning for a great meeting of citizens at the Cooper Institute on Monday evening, to express the public sentiment of this community on the recent extraordinary proceedings in Louisiana, should arrest the thoughtful attention of President Grant. This call is signed by our most eminent and respected citizens, including such well known names as William Cullen Bryant, August Belmont, William M. Evarts and many others of similar standing. The President has reason to distrust his judgment and review his conclusions when the first citizens of this great and enlightened metropolis find grounds, not only for disapproving of his conduct, but for uniting in an appeal to their fellow citizens to assemble in a great public meeting to give united expression to their condemnation and raise a voice of alarm and send it far and wide through the country. The President cannot affect to ignore or undervalue such a demonstration, supported by such eminent names. They express the almost unanimous public sentiment of this great city on a subject which the enlightened part of our citizens are as competent to judge of as President Grant or any of his advisers. They feel that public liberty is in peril; that the unexampled use of the army in breaking into and dispersing the legislative body of a sister State in peaceful session is a blow struck at the very foundation of our institutions. The President is bound to pay some regard to the public opinion of the country. He ought not to be confident that he is right when the best sentiment of the best classes condemns him. It is at least his duty to pause and reflect, and to re-examine the grounds of his unprecedented action. Can he believe that a citizen of the venerable age, calm wisdom, republican sympathies and elevation of character of Mr. Bryant, whose name heads this call, would co-operate in a movement which his judgment does not approve? Would Mr. Bryant lend his reputation to a vulgar partisan movement? Nobody can believe it of him or many others of the distinguished and sober minded citizens who feel it their duty to arouse the country to a sense of imminent public danger. The President will soon see that he is not supported by the sentiment of the country, and that his unparalleled course arouses the apprehensions of the people as no other public event has done since the firing on Fort Sumter. Can he think it possible that he is right when the wisest men of the country declare him so dangerously in the wrong? We trust that this demonstration, which expresses the soundest opinion of the country, may be duly weighed by the President. It is not safe for his reputation to disregard the sober judgment of his countrymen and persist in a course which all our wisest minds look upon as fraught with the gravest peril. The moral earnestness by which this strong reprobation of his policy in Louisiana is supported challenges his notice and has claims to his most careful consideration.

This respectable and influential call ought to convince the President that there is a limit beyond which no public officer in this republican government can go with impunity. The people do not forget the services of General Grant; they do not grudge him the fame he so fairly won as the commander of their armies in the most momentous crisis of our history. It is due to him more than to any other man that we possess an undivided country. It was his military genius that reunited a sundered federation, and the great body of the American people are disposed to pass a lenient judgment upon his occasional mistakes in civil administration. But they would have him remember that their rooted attachment to constitutional liberty is a deeper sentiment than personal admiration and gratitude, and that no past services, however distinguished and brilliant, can atone for a want of fidelity to the spirit of our free institutions or release him from his solemn oath to "preserve, protect and defend the constitution of the United States." In his first inaugural address he declared that he would have no policy to enforce against the will of the people, and if this call shall revive and invigorate that purpose his countrymen will throw a broad mantle of indulgence and oblivion over his recent great mistake. The eminent republicans who have signed this grave call have put their names to it "more in sorrow than in anger."

**THE FINANCE BILL.**—Contrary to expectation the Finance bill was yesterday rushed through the House, without debate, just as it had been through the Senate, and passed by a vote of 136 to 99. The previous question was called and cut off all discussion upon the merits of the bill. If by such measures as this the republican party in Congress expects to regain the confidence of the people it is much mistaken. A finance bill, of all bills, deserves to be fully debated, and not to be carried under the party whip; and a bill that cannot stand debate is confessedly weak. It now goes to the President for his signature; and as it was undoubtedly passed by his order he will no doubt approve his work.

**ANDREW JOHNSON'S** opinions upon the Louisiana outrage will be found pungent, and, as he was an impeached President, peculiarly interesting.

**THE ARKANSAS LEGISLATURE** has formally protested against the usurpation of Grant in Louisiana, and appeals to the American people to know whether the Southern States are independent or merely provinces. Provinces at present, we should suppose.

## The Duty of Congress.

An emergency of such extreme gravity as the present is fitted to exert a sobering influence on all minds that have any agency in directing public opinion or controlling official action. It is one of those rare and momentous occasions when inconsiderate appeals to the passions of an excited community would be a wanton trifling with great interests and would be a shallow insensibility to the magnitude of the questions involved. The public press in particular, which is the chief sentinel on the watch tower of liberty, and the most efficient engine for arousing and guiding public sentiment, has a deep sense of its responsibility in a conjuncture where it recognizes its duty to be a champion of constitutional liberty, and yet feels that impassioned appeals for sound principles might precipitate the country into inflammatory proceedings which would make the remedy more fatal than the disease. The press of the country stands as a mediator between Congress and the people, and it is in danger, in so great a crisis, of so arousing popular passions as to put them beyond the control of cautious reason. We are unalterably opposed to violent and revolutionary methods of redress. We have a firm and abiding faith in the capacity of our institutions to remedy public wrongs by peaceful and legal methods.

We trust that there is sufficient love of liberty, tempered by sobriety of judgment, to settle this unfortunate Louisiana difficulty without overstepping legal limits. Public sentiment, in this community, at least, is fully awake to the gravity of the situation. The fact that the call for a public meeting is signed by such eminent republican citizens as William Cullen Bryant and Mr. Evarts shows how deeply the conduct of the President has stirred public feeling among that intelligent class to which the community looks for counsel and guidance. We believe that the views of Mr. Bryant and Mr. Evarts are the views of all fair-minded citizens, not only here, but throughout the Northern States. Moreover, there is good reason to suppose that the same opinion is held by clear-sighted members of Congress, and particularly Speaker Blaine, who, however we may rank him as a constitutional lawyer, is unquestionably one of the shrewdest judges of popular sentiment among our public men. It is significant that Mr. Hale, who proposed the bill for a new election in Louisiana, is a Representative from Maine. It is not probable that he would have taken such a step without consultation with the most distinguished and influential republican member from his own State. It may, indeed, be said that Mr. Blaine is a scheming candidate for the Presidency; but if this is admitted it strengthens instead of invalidates the case against President Grant. It shows that the astute politician in the republican party perceives the destructive effect of sustaining the action of the President in Louisiana. So practised a politician as Mr. Blaine foresees nothing but defeat and ruin in standing by the policy of General Grant in a case where he is so clearly in the wrong.

The unqualified indorsement of the action of General Sheridan by the President and Cabinet, which has been officially communicated to him by the Secretary of War, forbids any hope that the President will reverse his action unless Congress interposes to constrain him. We do not see how Congress can evade its responsibility. But what can Congress do? Aside from passing a bill of the same general tenor as that offered by Mr. Hale there are several methods it could adopt. First, the two houses might pass a joint resolution censuring the President's illegal interference with a State Legislature, and declaring that he exceeded his authority. This would stay his hand and compel him to retreat; but there are obvious party reasons why such a vote of censure is impracticable. Secondly, he might be impeached on perfectly solid grounds, and if Congress were as hostile to him as it was to President Johnson this remedy would be promptly adopted. But the party motives which prevent a vote of censure would be more effective against a successful impeachment. Thirdly, Congress might revise the existing law, which clothes the President with authority to employ the public force in suppressing insurrections in a State on the application of its Executive or Legislature. It might, for example, require the sanction of three or some other number of the Judges of the Supreme Court before the President could employ the federal army in a State; or it might impose a limit of time beyond which the military power could not be exerted, after insurrectionary opposition is once put down, without a new application from the State authorities, and forbidding any interference except for the sole purpose of upholding public order against armed bodies of insurgents. But there is no reason for hoping that any of these methods will be adopted by Congress in the present conjuncture.

But a remedy similar in substance to Mr. Hale's bill, similar in substance to Senator Carpenter's bill two years ago, would be entirely practicable and could not be construed as an affront to the President. General Grant has repeatedly asked Congress to relieve him of his responsibility in this Louisiana difficulty, and there is no way in which Congress could accede to these reiterated requests with so much respectful consideration for the President as by providing for a fair and honest election in Louisiana. A bill for this purpose would have passed the Senate two years ago had it not been for the democratic opposition. The objections then made by the democrats have become obsolete by the progress of events. If they believe that a majority of the people are opposed to the Kellogg usurpation—as no doubt they are—the democrats should welcome an opportunity for a fair and honest election, and the republicans in Congress ought to be glad to escape the present damaging situation by a method which could not wound their party pride.

There is only one basis on which such legislation could rest. The constitution guarantees to each State a republican form of government. Until republican government is overthrown in a State there is no warrant for Congressional interference. This is a question of fact to be determined by the wise deliberation and sober judgment of Congress; but it is a question which is divested of all difficulty by the condition of affairs in Louisiana. Louisiana is a State without any government at all, republican or other. It is a State in which order is maintained only by the presence of the federal army, having no

government competent to preserve the peace. Its pretended Legislature is without a quorum, and therefore incompetent to perform any legislative act. Its pretended Governor would be compelled to seek refuge in flight if he were not supported by federal bayonets. Both the pretended Governor and the pretended Legislature are indebted for their authority as they assume to possess to frauds which nobody has the face to deny or defend. Unless the guarantee of republican government is unmeaning surplusage in the federal constitution the present is a case in which it may be properly called into force.

The only way to re-establish republican government in a State in which it has been subverted is by an honest election, through which the people may declare their will. The difficult part of the problem is to devise the machinery of a fair election. It would not do to intrust its management to any of the Louisiana factions, and expose it to the same imputations of fraud which have attended all recent elections in that State. Still less would it do to put it in charge of President Grant and the army, with the known bias and unqualified commitments of the President in favor of the bogus Kellogg government. Unless the election can be lifted out of the atmosphere of party passions it would only think the difficulties and further inflame the country. It would be worse than idle for Congress to take this subject in hand unless it gives a secure guarantee of perfect fairness and honesty in the election it orders. Congress has unquestionable power to take it out of the hands of the President. There are various methods it could adopt, but perhaps one of the fairest and most satisfactory would be to appoint a committee of its own body—say the fair-minded committee it recently sent to New Orleans—to act in conjunction with a committee of the most eminent citizens of the State. The State committee should be composed of members selected in equal proportions from the two political parties, but appointed only with the consent of the Supervising Committee of Congress, who should reject all members of whose fairness and integrity they have not satisfactory proofs. When a Governor and a Legislature shall have been elected by an honest vote of the people the duty of Congress would be discharged, and the State could be safely left to the control of its local authorities. There are, doubtless, shorter and better methods, but in the present state of parties they are impracticable. The republicans have gone too far in this unfortunate business to retreat by any other road, and while that party retains its majority in Congress it is vain to look to any other source of redress.

## The Comptroller's Respite.

Mayor Wickham has put on record his condemnation of Comptroller Green as an incapable or unfaithful financial officer. He has stated to the Common Council that he is not in a position to inform them what the liabilities of the city really are, but that in his judgment "the time has arrived when the actual financial condition of the city should be definitely ascertained and published in detail." He has declared that it is impossible to devise and carry out any practical measure of effectual relief until the taxpayers are in possession of the fullest information on the subject of the finances—information they do not at present possess. If this means anything it means that the head of the Finance Department is either so incapable as to be ignorant of our true financial condition or so dishonest as to deceive or withhold information from the people he serves. It is the duty of the Comptroller to know "what the liabilities of the city really are." Why is the information withheld from the Mayor? It is the duty of the Comptroller to be familiar with "the actual financial condition of the city." Why are not the taxpayers in possession of "the fullest information on the subject?" The Mayor calls on the Common Council to take measures—in which he promises to heartily co-operate—to procure a balance sheet showing the financial position of the city at the close of the past year. What necessity could exist for this recommendation to the Common Council if we had, in the opinion of the Mayor, a capable and faithful head of the Finance Department, whose statements could be accepted as reliable?

Mayor Wickham further arraigns the Comptroller for having caused "vexatious and costly litigation" by "forcing current claims against the city" into the courts "before the creditor can secure the amount to which he is justly entitled." The charge is indirectly and not directly made, it is true; but when the Mayor pledges himself to secure in the future "to every just and honest creditor a speedy settlement of his claim;" when he declares that he will henceforth "see that no unnecessary delay takes place on the part of the proper officers of the government in passing upon claims presented to them for adjustment and settlement;" when he proclaims that "hereafter there must be discrimination—the unjust must be separated from the just—and as to the latter vexatious and costly litigation will not be permitted," he means that the evils he promises to remove have heretofore existed, or he means nothing at all, and his words become mere redemptive.

Now, why does the Mayor hesitate to remove a financial officer whom he thus arraigns? Some of the city papers allege that the Mayor has "made his peace" with Mr. Green; others, that he hesitates to remove the Comptroller in the fear that the Governor will violate his principles to "save" a personal friend. We do not accept either of these explanations, for to do so would be to condemn Mayor Wickham as unfit to hold the office for which he has, up to this time, shown gratifying qualifications. It may be true that the Mayor, in his kindness of heart, has conceded to Mr. Green a certain respite in order to afford him an opportunity to resign. If he has done so we believe he has made a mistake, for the Comptroller will never resign. If the delay has been sought it has been for the purpose of affording an opportunity for intrigue to embarrass a removal. It is sometimes wise to "make haste slowly," but the policy is often harmful. The people desire to get rid of Mr. Green. The Mayor has condemned him. The Board of Apportionment have censured him for official misconduct. It is essential, above all things, that the finances of the city should be managed capably and faithfully. Delay in this case is a direct injustice to the city, and may

be by some regarded as an indication of instability of purpose. We have every confidence that Mayor Wickham will do his duty in the end. We believe that he will better satisfy the people if he does it promptly.

## Panettiere Over a Volcano.

Both Senator Conkling's constituents and the sober portion of the republican party everywhere must regret the pertinacity with which he pressed his amendment to Mr. Thurman's resolution of inquiry. Had he merely proposed it as a point of courtesy and gracefully yielded as soon as he saw that it was likely to obstruct the passage of the resolution, it would have been regarded as a proper enough attention to the forms of official intercourse. But the heat and acrimony with which the amendment was insisted on showed that his real objection was to the substance of the resolution, and that he wished the President to be relieved of any obligation to answer the inquiry. It was, therefore, an imprudent confession that it would embarrass President Grant to give a satisfactory answer to the request of the Senate for an explanation. If the conduct of the President is indefensible, and is perceived to be indefensible by his friends in the Senate, it is natural that they should oppose a call for information. But if he has a valid explanation—if he has a defence which rests on solid legal grounds or on facts which have not come to the public knowledge—his party supporters should be willing to afford him the earliest opportunity to communicate it and thereby allay the prevailing excitement and tranquillize the public mind. Attempts to obstruct inquiry are calculated to produce an impression that the conduct of the President is indefensible in the estimation of his political friends.

If the question were not so grave and did not so deeply stir public feeling this fastidious sticking to a mere form would be ludicrous. It is a form which has been frequently neglected, as is attested by the records of the Senate and as Mr. Thurman proved in the course of the debate by a copious citation of instances. But even if the usage of the Senate had been uniform it would be unwise to stand so stiffly on a punctilio in a question which goes to the very foundation of our institutions on points so essential as the subordination of the military to the civil power, the right of the people to have their votes in an election fairly counted and the exemption of legislative assemblies from interference with their proceedings by illegal violence. Have the spirit of liberty and respect for the constitution fallen into such decay that the Senate can weigh a trivial form of official etiquette against the rights, peace and dignity of a State of the Union? In a conjuncture so alarming it is the duty of Congress to be watchful for the general welfare, and it is their right to ask for information to guide their judgment, and it is the clear duty of the President to furnish it. The first duty, the very first, that is required of him by the constitution, after enumerating his powers, is this:—"He shall, from time to time, give to Congress information of the state of the Union." He is bound to keep Congress informed on every important point relating to the welfare of the Union, whether specially called on or not; and when, in a great crisis, such information is asked for by the representatives of the people, he cannot constitutionally withhold it. It is absurd for his political supporters to interpose quibbling questions of form to save the President from the performance of a clear duty. It is infinitely absurd to rank such forms above the rights of a State and the endangered peace of this country.

**GOVERNOR TILDEN**, when the Legislature reassembles next Tuesday, or possibly before, will undoubtedly defend the State, which has just honored him, from the possible results of the President's policy in the South. New York dare not stand by silently and look coldly upon the dispersion at the bayonet's point of the Legislature of a sister State.

**MR. BOUTWELL**, when he was a member of the House, decided, by an eloquent speech, the impeachment of Andrew Johnson. Mr. Boutwell is now in the Senate; will he be silent in respect to the greater offence of Grant?

**ANOTHER PROTEST.**—A number of the leading clergymen of Arkansas have published an appeal to the people of the country denying the statement of General Sheridan that a reign of terror exists in their State, but say that the remedy he proposes would of itself produce terrorism indeed.

**MASSACHUSETTS** saw yesterday a spectacle as unfamiliar as roses in December or snowflakes in June—the inauguration of a democratic Governor at the capital.

**WHAT IS THE TRUTH?**—We have repeatedly affirmed that the President would be condemned in the eyes of all honest men, republicans or otherwise, even to the point of impeachment, if he did not promptly communicate to the country the reasons which led him to make General Sheridan Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy and virtually proconsul of Louisiana, with power to dissolve legislatures and overturn sovereign assemblies. The President now intimates that he is in possession of facts which justify the course he has taken, and that he will probably place them before the country in a special message to Congress. The press of the United States, which is ignorant of any such startling information, can only say that the emergency must be as extraordinary as the act of the President, or that he must stand condemned for usurpation. For ourselves we have only to say that we cannot imagine any conspiracy in the South, without overt action, which could justify the dispersion of a sovereign Legislature. But the President is bound, in respect to the American people, to submit to Congress, at the earliest day, the information he claims to possess. If there is an excuse we must know it.

**GOVERNOR ALLEN**, of Ohio, has spoken to his Legislature in emphatic terms, and Governor Gaston, of Massachusetts, and Governor Brown, of Tennessee, in their messages have also urged the Representatives of those States to take immediate action. It is plain that the President has offended the pride and outraged the rights of the American people, and that there is but one answer to the blow he has delivered upon all the States when he struck down Louisiana with the sword.

## The Clerical Protest.

The press has spoken with a unanimity unusual in these days of partisan strife; the Governors of two Northern States—Massachusetts and Ohio—have spoken; Arkansas, Tennessee and the outraged people of Louisiana have spoken, and New York will soon speak to the President in language which may compel him again to answer, "Be brief; I am sick." He has reason to be, for no other President—not even Mr. Johnson—ever offended the American people as he has done. But in the midst of all these voices of surprise and indignation General Grant may hear the calmer utterance of the Church, the ministers of which know neither party, but speak simply for the good of all. In answer to the accusations which General Sheridan made in his despatches to the Secretary of War the leading clergymen of New Orleans have issued an address to the American people. They affirm that it is their duty "to proclaim to the whole American people that these charges are unmerited, unfounded and erroneous, and can have no other effect than that of serving the interests of corrupt politicians, who are at this moment making most extreme efforts to perpetuate their power over the State of Louisiana." The signatures to this address include those of Archbishop Perche, Bishop Wilmer, the Rev. Dr. Gutheim, Bishop Keener, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and the Rev. Dr. Dall, rector of St. Joseph's church, besides many others. These reverend gentlemen can have no motive to utter what is not the truth about society in Louisiana, and they have privileged means of knowing its character. The President may disregard their protest against the stigma that has been put upon their State, but the American people whom they address will listen and believe. The Church is neutral as between political parties, but it cannot be neutral between the wrong and the right.

**THE INTERCOLLEGIATE CONTEST** experiment was tried at the Academy of Music last night. It will be seen from our report of what took place that even the winner of the first prize in oratory only won because he forgot himself and was natural in his delivery during a part of his speech. The whole thing, however, was a dreary exhibition of mediocrity, and demonstrated clearly enough that these young men would have been better employed if they had given more time to their studies and less care and anxiety to their show speeches, which were not much of a show after all.

## PERSONAL INTELLIGENCE.

It is again rumored that Mr. Disraeli is to be married. Marlon Harland has an income of \$2,400 from her "Cook Book" alone. Mr. Dewitt C. Littlejohn, of Oswego, is stopping at the Metropolitan Hotel. Judge George F. Comstock, of Syracuse, is staying at the Fifth Avenue Hotel. The subscription book publishers are accused of snapping up the most popular writers. The American edition of "Chambers' Encyclopedia" costs \$35 and the Scotch edition \$14. Professor L. H. Atwater, of Princeton College, is residing temporarily at the Everett House. Rev. Dr. W. G. Cattell, President of Lafayette College, is sojourning at the St. Nicholas Hotel. Comptroller Nelson K. Hopkins and Mr. Henry R. Pierson, of Albany, are at the Fifth Avenue Hotel.

Baron de Bassiere, of Paris, arrived in this city yesterday, from Washington, and is at the Hoffman House.

State Senator Wells S. Dickinson, of Bangor, N. Y., is among the latest arrivals at the Metropolitan Hotel.

Brownlow's Knoxville Whig will make its appearance last March, with the irrepressible Parson Brownlow as editor.

Assemblymen James C. Brown, of Spring Valley, and Adolph E. Wenzel, of Callicoon, N. Y., are registered at Earle's Hotel.

Speaker Jeremiah McGuire and Mr. D. C. Ellis, Superintendent of the Bank Department, arrived from Albany yesterday at the Metropolitan Hotel. Democrats will console themselves over the New Orleans case with the thought that if there was any doubt in regard to these events have removed it.

"Deep Sea Fishing and Fishing Boats," by W. H. Holdsworth, is a finely illustrated and well written book on the capture of sea fish, which may be classed as one of the great industries of Britain.

The name of A. M. Holbrook now appears at the head of the New Orleans *Pionneur* as "editor and proprietor," thus setting at rest the doubts of some of his contemporaries as to the proprietorship of the paper.

Frank B. Carpenter, the well known artist, is at work on a portrait of Hon. Ezra Cornell. The sittings for the picture were given at Ithaca last summer. The portrait was ordered by the trustees of the Cornell University.

With what gusto would the tyrant in Madrid have received from the Duke to Alva a proposition to declare all the patriot people of the Netherlands "anathema!" The tyrant would have said your course is "thoroughly proved."

She is a dreadful creature, Cora Pearl; and yet the other night, when her coachman was arrested just as she came out of the theatre, a "jeune elegant" volunteered to get on the box and drive her home. It seems sometimes as if they were fond of dreadful creatures.

Russia has given her Turcomans of Astrakhan a "reservation" on the Peninsula of Mangyshsk, beyond the Caspian. They began to move thither in September, and all who are not moved by May will be counted as inhabitants of Astrakhan and will consequently be subject to the laws like other people.

The suggestion of the Springfield *Republican* that General Sherman should resign is one that he will not be foolish enough to act upon. It is an axiom in military science not to do what your enemy wants you to do, and to refrain from a certain course simply because he wants you to take it. Every lover of the country feels at this crisis that there is a great guarantee in the fact that the commander of the army is not a creature of the satraps of the White House.

M. De Villermessant, of the Paris *Figaro*, has displayed enterprise unusual in the Paris press by sending one of his best ledger writers to India to attend the trial of Nana Sahib. Such enterprise would scarcely be noted at all in America, but is a new thing in French journalism.

"Pere Joseph" keeps a little fruit shop in the Rue Fontaine, in Paris. He has a weakness for art and for artists. He trusts them, and sometimes they are very important to him. He does not get rich, however. On the contrary, he gets poor. In December sixteen French artists of first rate reputation, every one of whom in his time has been helped by Pere Joseph, each contributed a picture for the benefit of their old friend. The pictures will be exhibited and then sold, and Joseph will be able, evidently, to keep the wolf away.

The Shah, according to the translation of his diary kept in England, was enraptured with the illuminated Albert Hall blazing with its countless jets of gas. On the one side the great organ "spread itself out like a plane tree." To right and left were so lovely maidens attired in uniform of spotless white, but one-half of them wearing blue ribbons and the other half red. The stupendous instrument was manipulated by a single man. "He played well, but wind was supplied to it by steam. Otherwise how could an individual, with his feet or both hands, blow the musical blast?"